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of a book. He considers the nature of the evidence and its value. He gives, in sufficient detail for ordinary use among climatologists, the story of changing climates as evidenced by the fossils, or by the rocks themselves, from pre-Carboniferous up through the Tertiary. The glacial period naturally receives special attention, and here we find, as was to be expected reference to the important work of Penck and Brückner on the Alps. With climatic conditions within historical times the author says he is not concerned, but he remarks (p. 69) that "the glacial, or rainy period gradually merges into the climate of the present time, which, apart from periodic oscillations, is as a whole to be regarded as constant as far back as the beginning of historical chronology."

As concerns Turkestan, it is stated (p. 77) that "great variations in precipitation and consequently in the water supply are evidenced, but whether periodic or non-periodic we do not yet know." The suggested causes of the geological climatic changes are reviewed, as critically as space permits. The author distinctly recognizes the complexities of the problem, and insists, as all reasonable persons must insist, upon the need of a more thorough coördination and a further study of the geological evidence of climatic changes, as well as upon the folly of expecting that any single theory will furnish the key to all paläoclimatological problems.

Dr. Eckardt gives numerous bibliographic references, mostly to German publications. The book really serves a useful purpose, and it will be welcomed by many who, like the reviewer, have been somewhat discouraged by the task of making a study of the extended literature on this subject. Dr. Eckardt writes from the standpoint of a meteorologist, and has taken special pains to consider the meteorological and climatic characteristics of each geological period. R. DeC. W.

An Introduction to the Study of Rocks and Guide to the Museum Collection. By L. Fisher. 4th Edition. 155 pp. and index. The British Museum, London, 1909.

An informing guide to the rock collection in the British Museum. The book can be obtained only at the Museum.

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